



GOVERNOR GRETCHEN WHITMER

EXPANDED ACCESS TO QUALITY, AFFORDABLE HEALTH CARE



Governor Whitmer is prioritizing the health and well-being of every Michigander by ensuring access to quality, affordable health care and lowering the cost of prescription drugs.

Lowering the cost of prescription drugs

- Proposed \$150 million to [manufacture low-cost insulin](#), saving money for Michiganders with diabetes.
- Signed an [executive directive](#) to determine how the State of Michigan can lower the cost of insulin, including by developing its own manufacturing capabilities.
- Signed a bill [lowering the cost of prescription drugs](#) and increasing pharmacy oversight.
- Signed a bill protecting Michiganders against [surprise medical billing](#).
- Established [Prescription Drugs Task Force](#) and is implementing their recommendations to drive down costs, promote transparency, and improve health outcomes.
- Supported Attorney General Nessel's work to hold drug companies accountable for [skyrocketing insulin prices](#) and called on the legislature to cap insulin costs.
- Signed a bill fostering more [competitive health care pricing](#).

Expanding health care access and affordability

- [Proposed](#) investments to improve enrollee access to Medicaid services.
- Extended [Healthy Michigan](#) to [over 1 million people](#), lowering costs for working families.
- [Expanded dental care](#) for Medicaid or Healthy Michigan enrollees, lowering their costs.
- Expanded access to [telemedicine](#) and required insurers to [cover telehealth](#).
- [Invested \\$300 million](#) in health care worker training, recruitment, and retention and signed [loan forgiveness](#) for health professionals working in medically underserved communities.
- Enacted a [\\$2 per hour raise](#) for direct care workers, [proposed](#) an additional raise.
- Increased [access to mental health](#) by retaining or recruiting hundreds of mental health workers and expanded crisis stabilization programs.
- Secured funding to build a [new state psychiatric hospital](#), expanding inpatient capacity.
- Supported Attorney General Nessel's work to [sue major opioid distributors](#) as drug dealers. Won historic [\\$800 million settlement fight opioid addiction](#).
- [Signed bills](#) to raise the minimum age of tobacco sales from 18 to 21.
- Signed bills [expanding access to naloxone](#) for those experiencing an opioid overdose.
- Signed an [executive directive](#) instructing departments to find ways to lower costs and protect coverage for Michiganders at risk of losing coverage for health care.
- Took [action to protect](#) preventive health care coverage after a federal court struck the requirement from the ACA.

Addressing health inequities

- Consistently [invested](#) in [Healthy Moms, Healthy Babies](#), an initiative to address disproportionate racial impacts of maternal and infant mortality and ensure moms have the support they need for healthy pregnancies, deliveries, and postpartum care. Proposed an [expansion](#) to offer more services, continue reducing disparities.
- Established the Racial Disparities Task Force and made "lasting structural change." [Released a report](#) detailing progress made and actions still to be taken to close disparities.
- Made [investments](#) to reduce disparities, including Sickle Cell treatment, and [proposed](#) nearly \$60 million to implement their recommendations.
- Required medical professionals to undergo [unconscious bias training](#).

Bolstered programs to support families, lower costs

- Modified [asset test requirements](#) to allow people to receive food aid and other public assistance while they plan for a stable future, lowering their costs on the essentials.
- Removed red tape for benefit programs through proactive referrals, cross-enrollment processes, simplified requirements, and increased online access.
- Created the [Food Security Council](#) to identify opportunities to reduce food insecurity.

UPDATED: May 24, 2023